1st April 1930]

Representations from secondary grade teachers.

* 1786 Q.—Mr. P. SIVA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) whether any representations have been received from the secondary grade teachers in the Government service regarding their grievances as to their status and pay ; and

(b) if so, whether they have been considered and whether any decisions have been arrived at thereon ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Libraries

Alleged auction of newspapers in the Connemara Library.

* 1787 Q.—Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the newspapers (various dailies) that were preserved in the Connemara Library were sold away in auction ?

A.—Yes.

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" May I know where the public are to get these papers if they are to be sold away ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As has been answered already these newspapers were destroyed because the Superintendent of the Connemera Library brought to the notice of Government that unless Government are prepared to build a new building for housing these old newspapers they should have to be destroyed, as in the existing building there is absolutely no room for them. Government thought that the library could be better utilized by putting other literature there and so they recommended that it would be best to destroy these newpapers."

Rao Bahadur C. NATESA MUDALIYAR :—" Do Government realize that these newspapers contain a lot of information and so are very valuable and that with a reference to them we can write the history of the times."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" That is not a supplementary question."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" Will it not be possible to Government to keep newspapers for a fixed period of time and then destroy them at the lapse of such period ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" That is exactly the policy and practice of Government. For ten years all newspapers are kept and then they are destroyed."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Will it not be better to keep important papers than indiscriminately destroying all of them ? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" I think the Superintendent of the Museum has found that these papers are of no use and therefore he recommended their destruction."